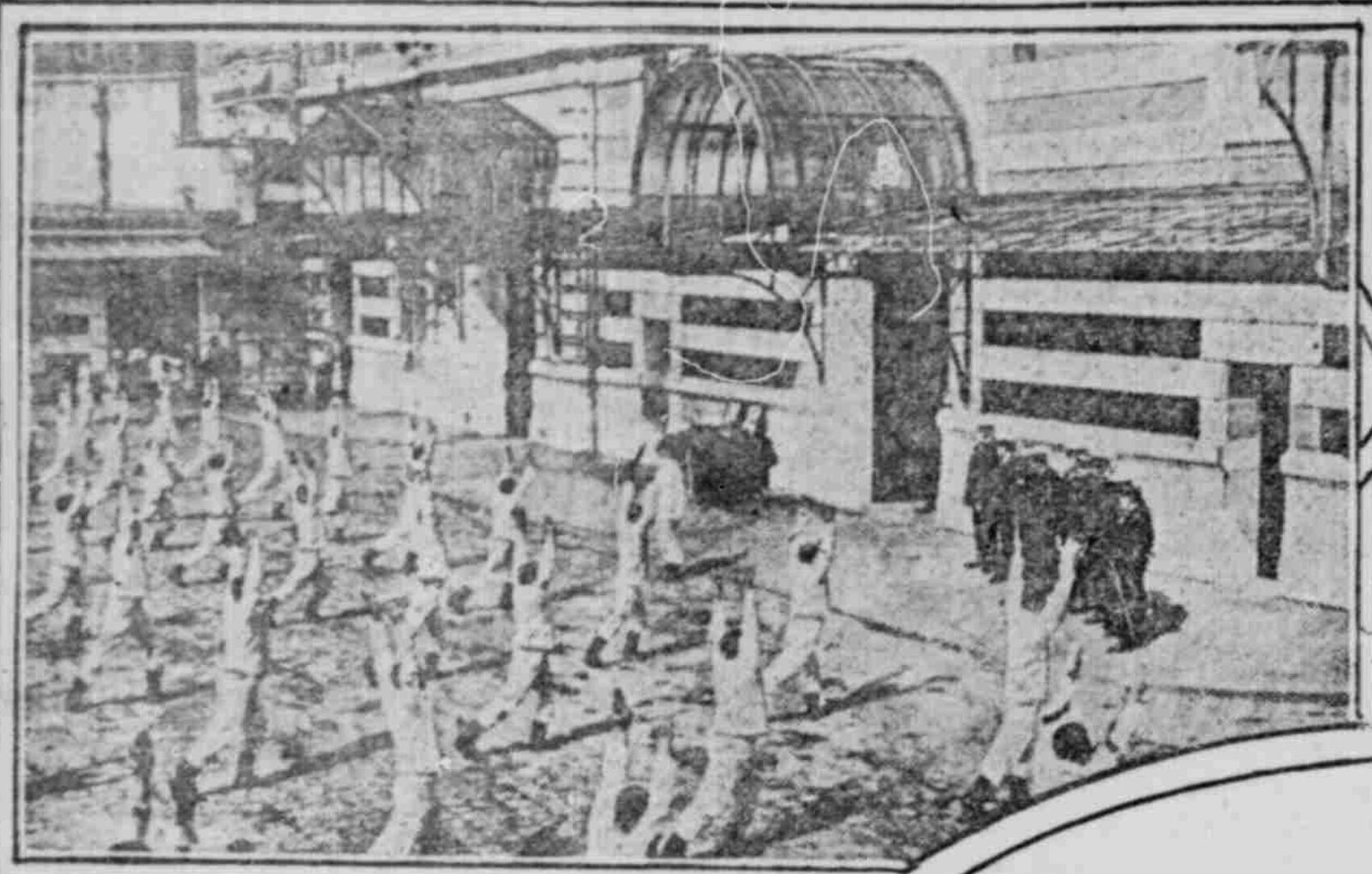


# FIRE FIGHTERS OF THE WORLD GATHERING IN NEW YORK FOR MONSTER CONVENTION



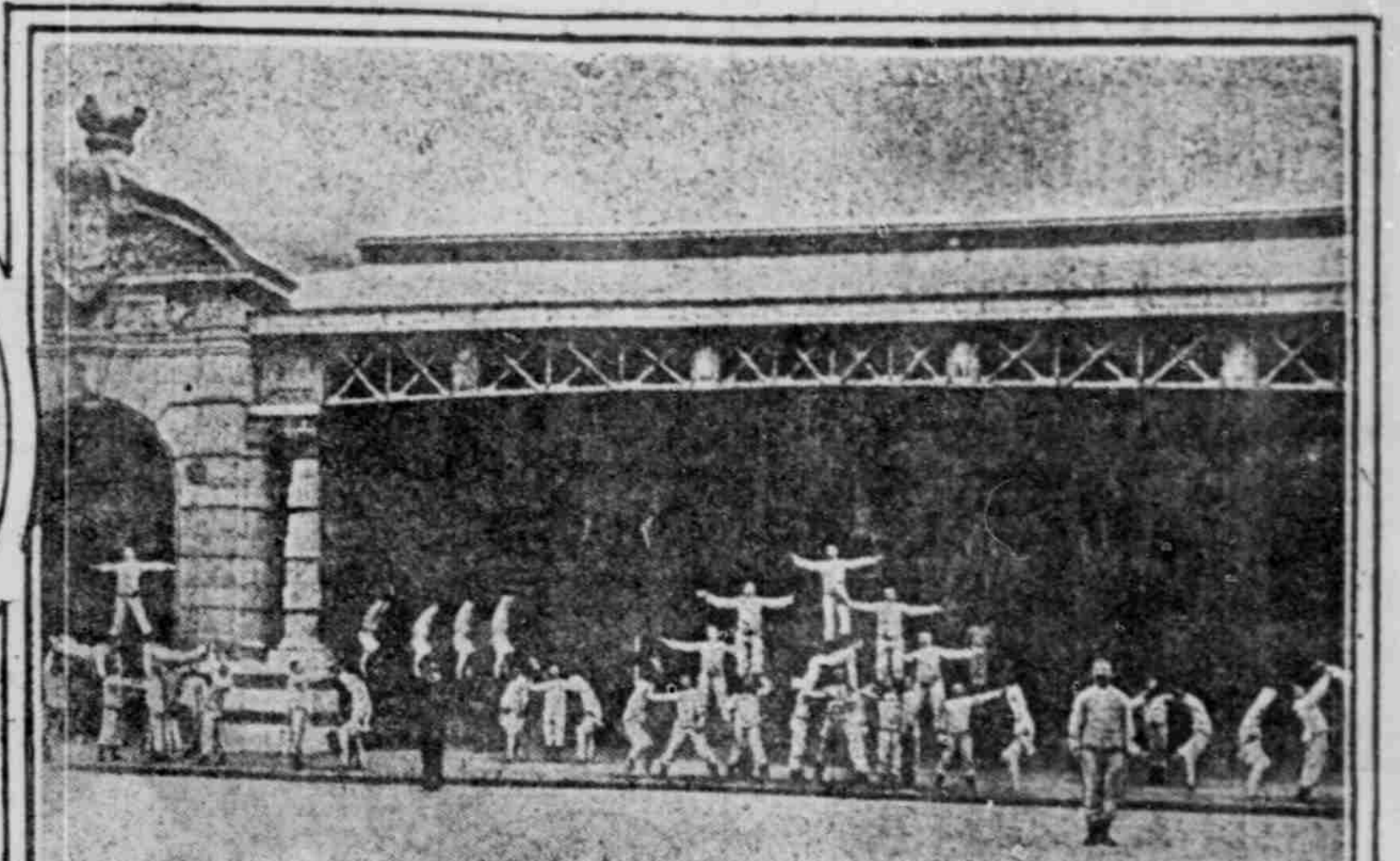
Swedish Firemen's Drill.



F. A. Schaenker, Frankfort Fire Department.



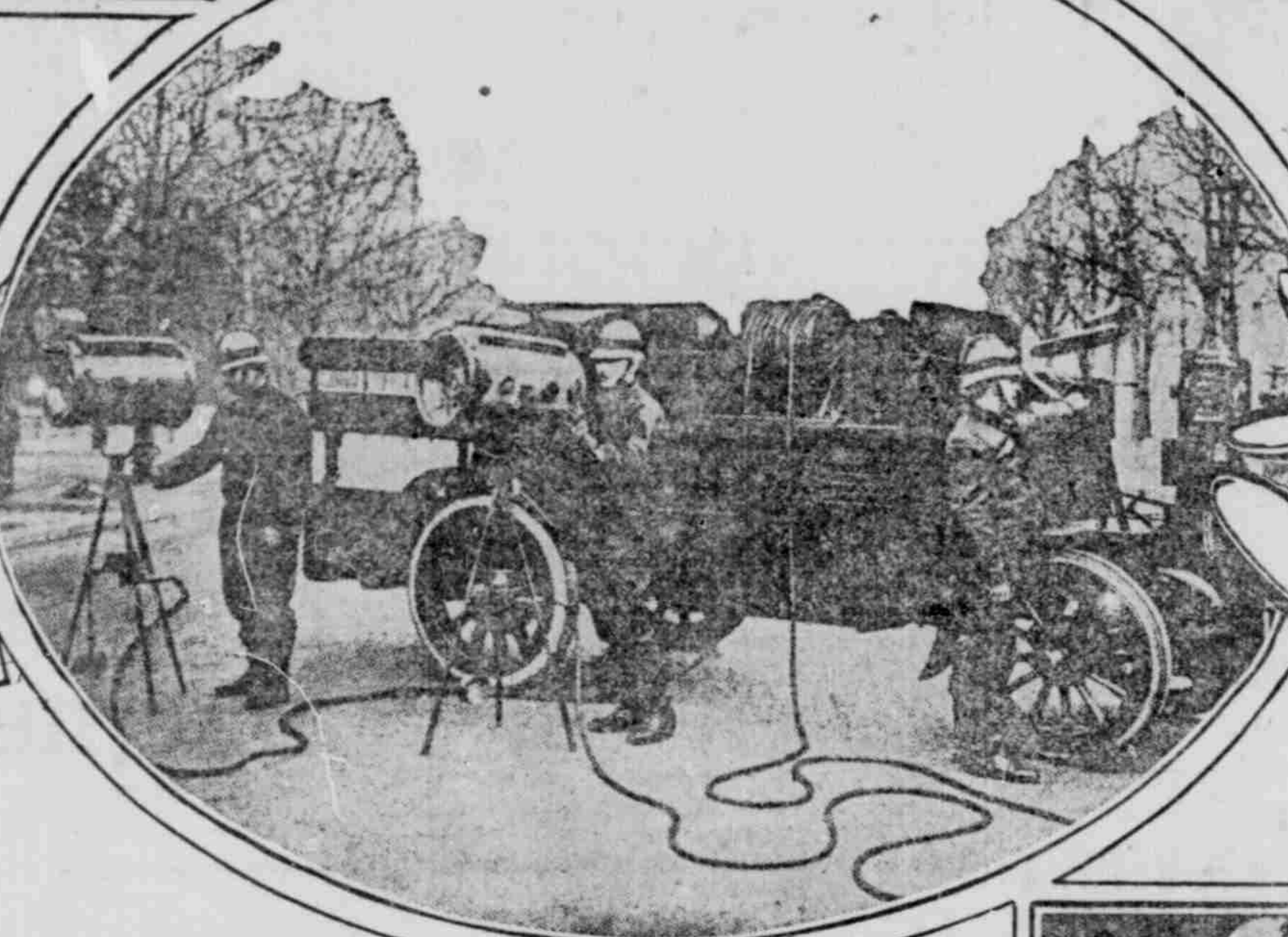
Thomas Purcell, Chief of Fire Brigade, Dublin, Ireland.



Paris Fire Brigade—A Gymnastic Class at the Montmartre Fire Station.



Captain Hivert, Paris Fire Brigade.



Searchlight Gear of Electro Petrol Salvage Tender, Paris.



Lieutenant Lapoint, Paris Fire Department.



Captain A. Pordage, Firemaster of Edinburgh.



Colonel M. Kirhoff, Chief of St. Petersburg Fire Department.

By Joseph Johnson, Fire Commissioner of New York City.

(Copyright, 1913, by the New York Herald Co. All rights reserved.)

NEW YORK CITY, Saturday.

THE progressive fire fighters of to-day are thirsty for knowledge. They overlook no opportunity to absorb information bearing on progress in the science of fire fighting. This is true abroad as well as in the fire departments of our own cities.

This thirstiness for knowledge is bringing several fire chiefs from other lands to New York city this month. Some are already here. Others are on their way.

All are to attend the forty-first annual Convention of the International Association of Fire Engineers. This gathering of the leading fire fighters of the world will take place during the first week in September in the Grand Central Palace, New York city. I doubt if so representative a body of fire fighters was ever brought together as will be entertained by us during convention week.

Twice before New York city has entertained the members of the International Association, once in October of 1875 and again in September of 1902. But in those years we had not near so much as we have now to interest the visiting fire fighters. We had then no motor apparatus in our Fire Department. Neither had we a Fire College, the best of its kind perhaps in the world. In fact the modern development of our Fire Department had not begun.

Now, however, we have a Fire Department second to none in the world. We have a high pressure system whose effectiveness in the districts it covers is unsurpassed by that of any other city. We have a Fire Prevention Bureau which is greatly reducing the number of fires. In fact, we have an object lesson in progressiveness that is really worth while seeing. So the forty-first Convention of the International Association of Fire Engineers is likely to be far more largely attended than any other convention in its history. Certainly the fire chiefs from abroad have evinced a keener interest than usual, and this in spite of the fact that another fire chiefs' convention is being held in Europe this year.

I am sure that our visitors from abroad will be well repaid for their journey. Not only have we arranged an exceptionally interesting programme for their entertainment, but the most comprehensive collection of fire fighting apparatus that has been gotten together for many years will be exhibited in the Grand Central Palace in connection with the convention. Apparatus tests which seek to demonstrate the efficiency of modern automobile apparatus under trying conditions have been arranged, and an interesting programme of subjects for discussion in the convention hall has been agreed upon.

We have also arranged for a firemen's

parade. This will include not only a representative contingent of firemen from our own Fire Department, together with apparatus, but a large number of volunteer companies from nearby cities and towns. Some of our crack pieces of motor apparatus will be in this parade. We tried to get one or two of the foreign fire chiefs



C. E. Bennington, Chief of Pretoria (South Africa) Fire Department.

to bring apparatus with them, but this plan fell through owing to the large expense in transporting such apparatus across the ocean.

In connection with our parade a firemen's monument, erected in memory of New York city's fire fighters who have lost their lives in combating fires, will be unveiled at 100th street and Riverside Drive. His Honor Mayor Gaynor has consented to attend this unveiling of the firemen's monument. The Mayor will also welcome the visiting fire chiefs at the opening of the convention on September 1.

The citizens of New York have provided the funds for the entertainment of the visiting chiefs. More than \$25,000 has been raised by popular subscription. The fire fighters will assemble in the Grand Central Palace on the morning of Monday, September 1, and at noon on that day the convention will open. Tuesday will be given over to business sessions and memorial services. On Wednesday, September 3, fire apparatus will be exhibited at the foot of West Fifty-sixth street, where competitive tests of motor fire engines and other fire fighting machines will be held. At one o'clock P. M. on Wednesday there will be a ladies' luncheon at the Hotel Plaza, and at three o'clock P. M. the visitors will witness a baseball game between the New York Fire Department and the New York Police Department team at Ebbets Field, Bedford avenue and Sullivan street, Brooklyn. There is keen rivalry between these two teams. Each year a series of games is played for a cup donated by Mr. Joseph



August Deering, First Assistant Chief Honolulu Fire Department.

J. O'Reilly. This year another cup has been donated by Mr. Robert H. Mainzer. On Wednesday evening, September 3, the visiting fire fighters will be the guests of several theatres.

For Thursday, September 4, we have arranged an excursion on the steamer Grand Republic, which will leave pier 1, the Battery, at eleven o'clock A. M. As they pull away from the pier our fire boats will perform a spectacular demonstration. In the Grand Republic the fire fighters will proceed to Coney Island, and



Arthur R. Dyer, Divisional Officer London Fire Brigade.



Felix Mitchell, Chief of Cape Town (South Africa) Fire Department.

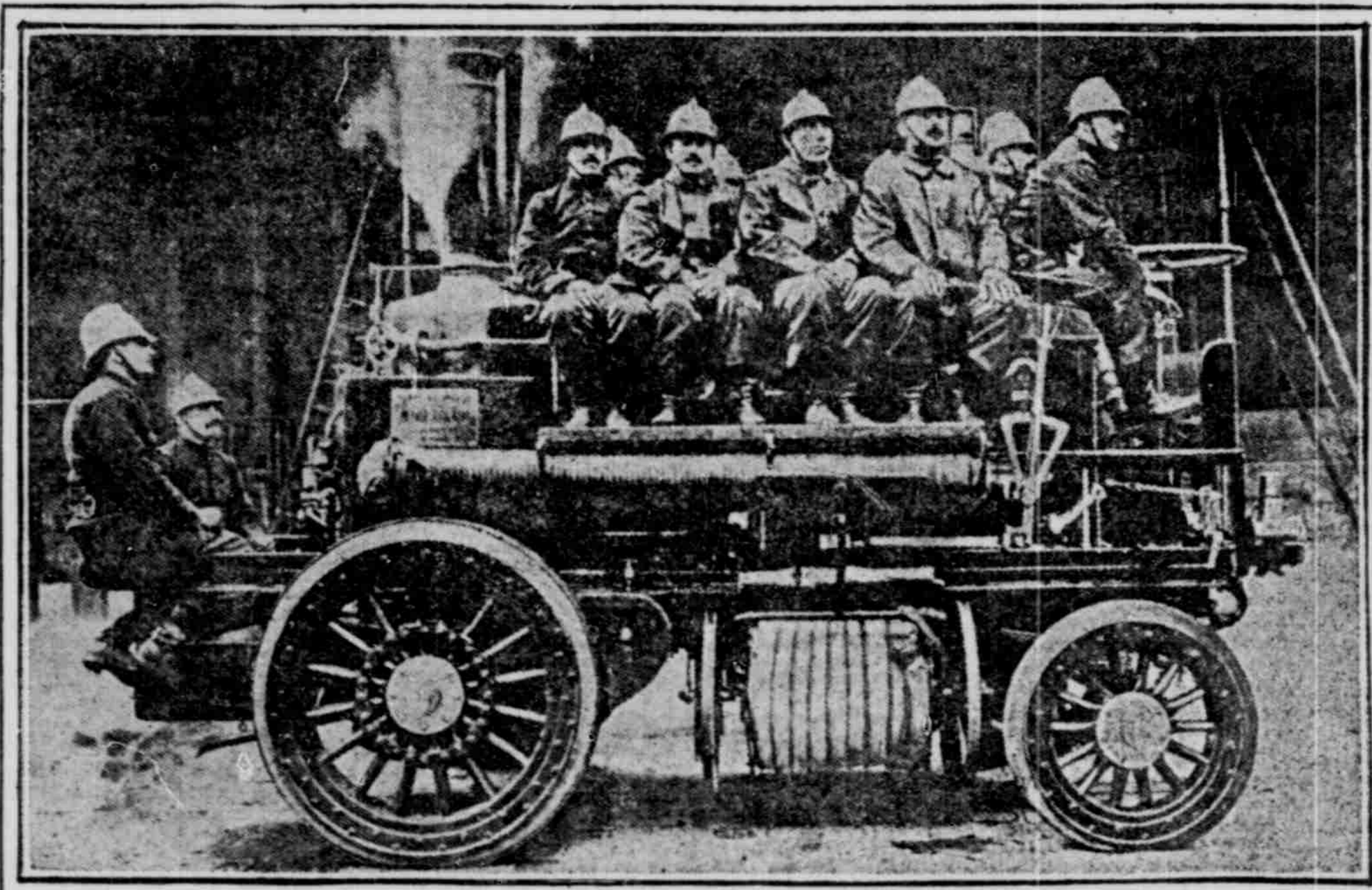


Andrew Ten Hope, one of nine chiefs of the Rotterdam Fire Department.

"To the Men of the Fire Department of the City of New York Who Died at the Call of Duty. Soldiers in a War That Never Ends, This Memorial is Dedicated By the People of a Grateful City."

But we are getting away from the programme. During the evening of Friday, September 5, the visiting fire fighters will be entertained at the Jardin de Danse, on top of the New York Theatre, Broadway and Forty-fifth street.

The last business session of the International Association of Fire Engineers will be held at half-past nine o'clock A. M.



Steam Motor Fire Engine, with Crew, Travelling Under Steam.—Paris.

In the evening they will be dined at Reisenweber's Brighton Beach Casino. At eleven o'clock that night they will start back to Manhattan from Steeplechase pier.

The firemen's parade is scheduled to start at half-past one o'clock P. M. on Friday, September 5, and at two o'clock the firemen's monument will be unveiled. We have erected stands with a seating capacity of between five thousand and six thousand close by the monument.

The firemen's memorial has been erected with funds raised by popular subscription. Its architect is Mr. H. Van Buren Morgan. When this monument is unveiled two marble groups symbolizing Duty and Sacrifice will be disclosed. The sculptor is Mr. Attilio Piccirilli. One one side of the memorial appears this inscription:—

vention is confined to the reading of papers on pertinent fire fighting themes and discussion of these papers by the delegates. The subjects already listed to be discussed are:—

No. 1—"Motor Apparatus: Its Durability, Efficiency and Economy of Operation," Chief A. V. Bennett, Birmingham, Ala.

No. 2—"Fire Insurance and Its Relation to Incendiarism," Chief John Kenlon, New York.

No. 3—"The Gasoline Motor Pumping Engine—Its Defects and Cost of Operation and Maintenance," Charles S. Demarest, Chief of Construction, Fire Department, New York.

No. 4—"Inspection of Buildings and Contents by Uniformed Members of Fire Departments," Commissioner W. N. Nash, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Probably the public will be most interested in our exhibition of fire fighting apparatus. For this purpose practically all the exhibit space in the Grand Central Palace has been utilized. Modern fire apparatus and fire appliances of innumerable kinds and makes will be shown, along with fire prevention mechanisms.

We have received many letters from European fire officials accepting our invitation to attend the convention. The first visiting fire chief to arrive was Divisional Chief Arthur R. Dyer, of the London Fire Brigade, who came here on August 4, accompanied by Mr. Arthur J. Stubbs, assistant engineer in chief of the General Post Office, London. They are studying the fire alarm telegraph systems of our large cities while waiting for the convention. Our own system was shown them in detail. Chief Dyer tells me that the fire alarm system in London can be improved upon, but before adopting any material changes they wish to ascertain the most satisfactory alarm system in use in the United States.

Among others of our foreign visitors will be Chief Schaenker, of the Frankfort Fire Department; Captain Hivert and Lieutenant Lapointe, of the Paris Fire Department; Captain Pordage, of the Edinburgh department, and other officials all the way from Alexandria, Egypt, to Melbourne, Australia.

## BOY OF FIVE STUDENT AT UNIVERSITY.

THE university impresses Master Arthur Edward Rochie Hardy, five years old, its youngest matriculated student, no more than the kindergarten does the ordinary child of that age. Neither is he disconcerted by the fact that his classmates are all adults, most of them teachers of little boys and girls older than himself. He asks no concessions on account of his age, but follows the lectures and other exercises with a comprehension that bodes well for his completion of the course in good standing.

The course that this boy is taking is the one on school gardens given by Mr. Henry Griscorn Parsons in the New York University. While the course in school gardens is not one of the most difficult at the university, it involves a comprehension of a number of sciences. In taking it little Edward Rochie Hardy will be learning something of botany, chemistry and mathematics, both their theory and their practice. The lectures start with the very beginning of plant life, and through the six weeks of the course cover the scientific study and actual work necessary for a college trained school gardener.

Unless the day is stormy at least one lecture is given in the long arbor where numberless bunches of green grapes depend from the heavy foliage. Such a pleasant classroom it is, and the instructor tells why it is so especially comfortable on a hot day. It is not only that the leaves keep out the mercurial sun, but the leaves themselves are cool. The littlest member puts out his hand to prove this statement. The stones are so hot that they blister your hand if you put it on them, and yet the sun shines no harder on them than on the leaves. These are things that Edward Rochie Hardy can understand, and he even follows the explanation of the scientific reason, which is not so simple. His attention may stray sometimes, but for the most part he is a conscientious listener and seems to stow away in his little mind the utterances of Mr. Parsons for future use. Sometimes he peeps through the foliage and sees many little gardens aglow with bright flowers and wonders if his garden is going to look like that. Then his thoughts come back and he assures the teacher that he understands how the roots and stems of plants draw water up from the soil.

Edward Rochie Hardy was five years old on June 17, "a Bunker Hill boy" his New England mother proudly calls him. His parents are both graduates of Boston University, and his mother also is a graduated physician, having before her marriage done important scientific work in Germany, where she spent six years, one of her discoveries being of very great importance in the treatment of women. In this country, too, she was engaged in profitable laboratory work, and was influential in the work of providing good milk for the babies of New York. Her great work now is the rearing of her son, to which she has devoted herself since his birth. When friends saw her pushing the baby carriage up the hill they were aghast. "You, with all your degrees!" they exclaimed. "And what has become of your career?" "This is my career," she explained, "and there can be no greater."

Of course, the serious part of the con-